

REMARKS

By the foregoing Amendment, Claims 6 and 24 are amended and Claims 23 and 26 are cancelled. Entry of the Amendment, and favorable consideration thereof is earnestly requested.

Claims 6, 7 24 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over GB 1,040,271 to Goodyear. However, the Examiner has indicated that Claims 23 and 26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 6 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable Claim 23 and Claim 24 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable Claim 26. Claims 23 and 26 have accordingly been cancelled. Thus, Claims 6 and 24 (and Claims 7 and 25 which depend therefrom) all include subject matter which the Examiner has already indicated is allowable.

The cross-reference to related applications on page 1 of the Specification has been updated as suggested by the Examiner.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims, namely Claims 6, 7, 24 and 25, are patentable over the references of record, and earnestly solicits allowance of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd M. Oberdick", is written over a horizontal line.

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